

2018 Annual Conference will be held in Cincinnati, OH in Duke Energy Center July 4-8.

The Southern Ohio District will be hosting the conference with the theme of "Living Parables." Our district has the opportunity to be a "living parable" by assisting and serving in some capacity at the conference. Volunteers are needed to assist with Early Childhood Care; Grades K-2, Grades 3-5, Junior High, Senior High, Young Adults, Single Adults, Conference Registration, Ticket Sales, Ushering, Unloading(7/3/18) and Loading(7/8/18) of equipment. Check our website or contact your church office to obtain a form, check your interests, provide your contact information then send it to Glenn and Linda Timmons, On Site Co-Coordinators by February 1, 2018. (4481 Valleybrook Drive, Englewood, OH 45322) If you have questions, call the Timmons at 937-832-2630 (H) or 937-623-5609.

163rd Southern Ohio District Conference

What a wonderful weekend of sharing in District Conference! From the time conference convened on Friday afternoon through its conclusion on Saturday afternoon, our Pleasant Hill congregation showed us marvelous hospitality. Conference closed with passing the gavel on to next year's moderator, Deb Oskin. Our 2018 Conference Theme is "We are Christ's Body." A more detailed report of business and events can be found on the district website.

Camping and Retreat Updates

Cookie Camp has been so well supported by the many churches over the district that we have had to expand our baking to two days. We are going to begin baking on Friday evening, Dec. 8, at 6:00 pm, and Saturday, December 9 beginning at 9:00 AM at Salem Church of the Brethren. We will be baking and packing cookies from 9:00 - 1:00. Lunch will be provided along with lots of milk, tea, and coffee to go with the cookies. All the ingredients and supplies will be at the church. We only need heavy duty mixers brought by people coming to bake. It is a wonderful time with lots of fun as we sift, mix, pop, roll, cut, and create the many kinds of holiday cookies for everyone to enjoy.

Camp Ambassadors and church offices have received Cookie Order Sheets. Orders can be placed with ambassadors, church offices, or directly to Karen Dillon. Order forms are also available on the website. Orders are needed by December 1. The orders will be filled and ready for pickup on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm at Salem. Some ambassadors will be delivering cookie orders to their churches. The funds collected from Cookie Camp will be used to help pay for the two Winter Blasts being planned for campers in January, thus keeping the costs as low as possible. If anyone would like to come to both days of baking, overnight accommodations can be made by contacting Karen Dillon.

SAFARI Winter Blast Friday, JAN. 19, 6:00 pm (after dinner) - Saturday, Jan. 20, 4:00 pm. This camp is for campers who attend or are eligible for Safari Summer Camp. These special needs campers and caregivers will enjoy winter activities geared to their abilities as they share time with new and old friends. Cost: \$20 per person

Winter Blast II Friday, JAN.26, 6:00 pm (after dinner) - Saturday, Jan. 27, 4:00 pm. Calling all kids who want to have another winter time camping experience. With or without snow, the fun-filled event will keep everyone active with swimming, singing, running, playing, as we get to know each other better. Invite your friends to come with you. Cost: \$20 per person

Registrations and more information will be available in November.

Disaster Ministry Updates

CWS Project Update: 504 Cleanup Buckets

In response to the hurricanes in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico, our district worked together to respond to the need. 504 Cleanup buckets for Church World Service (CWS) were assembled on October 19 by 96 volunteers, ranging in age from three to 91+ years. They represented thirteen COB congregations, plus several other churches. With many hands working, the buckets were filled with fourteen different items and stacked on skids in less than an hour. These buckets were shipped to the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, MD, arriving there on October 25. From there they will be shipped to the point of need.

S. Ohio BDM stepped out in faith as we undertook this project. District churches were invited to set their own goal, knowing the scope of the project. CWS values the buckets at \$75, but we have consistently assembled them for less. About \$33,000 has been received to fund this project. Not all bills have been turned in, so we don't yet have the total cost of the project. Donations have definitely exceeded the cost of 504 Cleanup Buckets. We are checking with Church World Service and Brethren Disaster Ministries to see what the need is for additional buckets, kits, or supplies. Thank you to everyone who has helped with this project. Together we are sharing God's love by helping those in need.

Sewing Bee-- Come sew school bags on Saturday, November 11 at 9:00 AM at Greenville COB, 421 Central Avenue. Bring your sewing machine, an extension cord, and a sack lunch. These bags will be used for CWS school kits. Come not only to sew, but for great fellowship too. For more information, contact Barb Brower at 937-336-2442.

2018 Trip Schedule-- The 2018 schedule for rebuilding trips is now set and available on the district website. Volunteers need to be at least fifteen years old, unless they go with a parent or guardian, and then they may be fourteen. The June and July trips are youth oriented trips. BDM covers expenses and provides transportation in the BDM vans. Sign up for a trip by contacting Burton Wolf at 937-287-5902 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com

SOKD Mission Buy and Sell

The SOKD Mission Buy & Sell is a new initiative to provide funds for Southern Ohio District and for our church in Nigeria. It is now functioning on Facebook Marketplace. These items have been donated by individuals within our district. If you would like to purchase something, you can leave your bid on the page. You are encouraged to go on the site and post a bid or make a comment, then share the site with your friends.

*For more information on what is happening in Southern Ohio as well as more details on these events contact your church office, the Southern Ohio District (sodcob@brethren.org) visit our website: www.sodcob.org. In addition to this publication, we also email a monthly newsletter. To request a newsletter simply email your request to the same email address. If you would like to add your event to either the website, this publication, or the monthly newsletter please email your information to sodcob@brethren.org **before the 15th of the month.***

